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Message Text

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60
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 IO-11 SAB-01 ACDA-10 SAM-01 /103 W
---------- 126102
R 251001Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 386
INFO AMCONSULATE ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 2467

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF, UR
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF BREZHNEV ADDRESS TO CPSU

1. EGYPTIAN DAILIES FEBRUARY 25 TREAT BREZHNEV OPENING ADDRESS TO 25TH CPSU CONGRESS WITH WIDELY DIFFERING APPROACHES. AHRAM, IN GENERALL UP-BEAT ARTICLE, STRESSES DESIRE OF SOVIETS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH EGYPT IN CONTEXT OF SOVIET-EGYPTIAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY, ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE. AKHBAR ARTICLE BY MUSA SABRI INTERPRETS PORTION OF BREZHNEV SPEECH ON EGYPTIAN RELATIONS TO BE INDIRECT CRITICISM BOTH OF ELEMENTS WITHIN SOVIET UNION AND EGYPT WHO HAVE WORKED AGAINST IMPROVEMENT OF EGYPTIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS.

ACCORDING TO SABRI INTERPRETATION, BREZHNEV WAS
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CRITICIZING HARD-LINE SOVIET FACTION WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVOKING "CENTER OF POWER" INTO MAY 15, 1971, ATTEMPT

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AGAINST SADAT REGIME. IN THIS CONTEXT, SABRI STATES THAT ONE OF MAY15 CONSPIRATORS CURRENTLY AT WORK WRITING FULL CONFESSION WHICH WILL IMPLICATE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT ON SIDE OF CONSPIRATORS.

2. GUMHURIYYA ARTICLE STEERS CLEAR OF ANY INTERPRETATION OF BREZHNEV OPENING ADDRESS. ONLY ITEM THAT GUMHURIYYA APPEARS TO FIND OF INTEREST IS STATEMENT BY BREZHNEV THAT FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN SHOULD PARTICIPATE WITH US AND SOVIETS IN GUARANTEEING ANY PERMANENT BORDERS WHICH EMERGE FROM FINAL, OVERALL ME PEACE SETTLEMENT.

3. COMMENT: DIVERGENT APPROACHES OF LOCAL DAILIES TO BREZHNEV ADDRESS AT 25TH CONGRESS WOULD APPEAR TO REFLECT EGYPTIAN UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHAT SOVIET POLICY TOWARD EGYPT WILL EMERGE FROM MOSCOW DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS LACK OF SPECIFIC GUIDANCE TO SEMI-CONTROLLED EGYPTIAN PRESS FROM GOE, WHICH CURRENTLY PREOCCUPIED WITH SADAT DISCUSSIONS WITH SAUDI LEADERS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN RIYADH.
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